

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 CEA-01 TRSE-00

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 5778

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ELAB, GR

SUBJECT: GREEK LABOR STANDARDS

REF: STATE 136706

1. FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO QUESTIONS POSED IN
PARA 3, REFTEL:

A. THE GREEK CONSTITUTION PROHIBITS SLAVE, INDENTURED
OR OTHER FORCED LABOR. SUCH PRACTICES ARE PENAL OFFENSES
UNDER ARTICLE 322 OF THE GREEK CRIMINAL CODE.

B. INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT OF MINORS UNDER 14 YEARS OF
AGE IS PROHIBITED. IN CERTAIN HAZARDOUS OR UNHEALTHY EMPLOY-
MENT, SUCH AS SPINNING MILLS, GLASS FACTORIES OR
CHEMICAL FERTILIZER PLANTS, MINIMUM AGES ARE 16 YEARS FOR
MALES AND 18 YEARS FOR FEMALES. PRINCIPLE GREEK LAWS
GOVERNING CHILD LABOR, AND THE ILO CONVENTIONS UPON
WHICH THEY ARE MODELED, ARE: LAW 2271/1920, ILO CONVENTION
NO. 5; LAW 2272/1920, ILO CONVENTION NO. 6; LEGISLATIVE
DECREE NO. 4215/1961, ILO CONVENTION NO. 90.

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C. IN GENERAL, EMPLOYERS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE SAFE
WORKING CONDITIONS UNDER ARTICLES 660 TO 667 OF THE GREEK
CIVIL CODE. MANY REGULATIONS DESIGNED TO PROTECT WORKERS
FROM VARIOUS TOXIC SUBSTANCES ARE BASED ON THESE ARTICLES.
MORE SPECIFICALLY, GREECE HAS ENACTED ILO CONVENTION
NO. 136 ON BENZENE AS LAW 492/1976. WORKERS EXPOSED TO

LEAD ARE PROTECTED UNDER LAW 6011/1934.

D. THE SAME LABOR STANDARDS ARE APPLIED TO ALL SECTORS, INCLUDING THOSE LOCATED IN FREE TRADE ZONES, EXPORT OR IMPORT RELATED INDUSTRIES, AND FOREING-OWNED ENTERPRISES.

2. ALTHOUGH THE INNUMERABLE SMALL, SINGLE-FAMILY ENTERPRISES PREVALENT IN GREECE MAKE THE MONITORING OF LAW DIFFICULT, THE GOG MAKES A SERIOUS AND LARGELY SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO DO SO. ITS EFFORTS ARE SECONDED BY A VOCAL TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND AUTONOMOUS LABOR COURTS. ANY VIOLATIONS WHICH DO OCCUR ARE NOT OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE TO DISTORT GREECE'S INTERNATIONAL TRADE POSITION.

MILLS

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